

May 13, 1862.

John Gould, Esq., F.R.S., in the Chair.

The Secretary reported that the 'La Hogue,' which had sailed from Sydney on the 16th of January, with the living Kagu (*Rhinocetus jubatus*) on board, shipped for the Society by Dr. Bennett, had arrived on the 22nd of April last, with this curious bird in perfect health. The Kagu had been transferred without delay to the New Aviary in the Society's Gardens. Dr. Bennett had also forwarded by the same vessel two Hornbills and a Pigeon from the Salomon Islands, and a *Porphyrio* from the island of Tanna, of the New Hebrides group, to be deposited in the Society's Gardens, and taken care of for H.R.H. the Duc de Brabant.

One of the Hornbills had died shortly before the arrival of the vessel, but, having been placed in spirits, had made a good skeleton. This and the skin had enabled the species to be determined. It appeared to be *Buceros ruficollis*, agreeing with Temminck's figure (Pl. Col. 557) of that bird. The male, still living, had the head and neck rufous white, darker posteriorly; in the female, which had died, these parts were black. Dr. Selater had remarked a similar distinction of the sexes in the specimens of this bird in the Museum at Leyden.

The Pigeon appeared referable to *Carpophaga rubricera*, G. R. Gray, MS. (*Globicera rubricera*, Bp. Consp. ii. p. 31). The *Porphyrio* was much like *Porphyrio melanotus* (Gould's B. Austr. vi. pl. 69), already in the Menagerie, but smaller in dimensions, and apparently distinct.

The same vessel had also brought a large consignment of Parrots for sale, out of which the Secretary had secured for the Society's Menagerie examples of the following rare species, all new to the collection:—

1. *Calyptorhynchus banksii*, Vig. & Horsf., from New South Wales.

2. *Cacatua ducorpsii*, Hombron & Jacquinot, from the Salomon Islands—a very distinct species, allied to *C. moluccensis* and *C. cristata*, but readily distinguishable by the blue skin round the eye and the yellow-tinged crest, as shown in Mr. Wolf's drawing (Pl. XIV.).

3. *Pyrhulopsis personata* (G. R. Gray), from the Fiji Islands, agreeing with the bird figured, P. Z. S. 1848, Aves, Pl. III. p. 20.

Dr. Crisp exhibited the following specimens:—

1. The head of a Partridge (*Perdix cinerea*), shot in September last; the upper mandible much thickened and curved upwards, so that its point was three-fourths of an inch from the tip of the lower mandible. The bird was in tolerable condition, and had probably lived chiefly on green food, as turnip-tops were found in the crop and gizzard. Three birds were shot in the same locality with a similar

malformation, and it is believed that they belonged to the same covey.

2. The cæcal appendages of the Impeyan Pheasant (*Phasianus impeyanus*), for the purpose of showing their large size. The two when distended measured 18 inches in length, and held seven ounces of water. Dr. Crisp said that, with the exception of the larger size of these cæca and a larger number of tracheal rings, the visceral anatomy of this bird differed in no important points from that of our common Pheasant (*P. colchicus*).

3. The tail-glands of the Black Swan (*Cygnus atratus*) and of the Red-throated Diver (*Colymbus septentrionalis*). In both these birds the elevatores coccygis were seen to be firmly inserted into the posterior part of the glands, so as to aid materially in the expulsion of their contents.

Mr. Fraser exhibited for Lord Powerscourt an enormous pair of antlers with forty-four points, supposed to be those of the Red Deer, from the Carpathian Mountains. Their weight was stated to be seventy-four pounds; the length of each antler 5 feet 8 inches, following the curve, the distance direct from the base to the tip of each antler being 4 feet 3½ inches, the greatest width of the antlers 5 feet 5 inches. The following was Lord Powerscourt's memorandum respecting this remarkable specimen:—

“This pair of horns was bought for me by the Hon. Julian Fane, at Vienna, about six weeks ago. The history he got with them was that they had belonged to a person who lived near Kronstadt in Transylvania; that they were sold out of his Schloss, on his death lately, and bought by a travelling merchant, who again sold them to a burgher of Vienna, from whom Julian Fane bought them for me for £50.”

Mr. Alfred Newton exhibited some birds, collected in Madagascar by his brother Mr. Edward Newton and Dr. Roch (both Corresponding Members of the Society), who had formed part of the Mission lately sent to that island by the Government of Mauritius. He remarked that last autumn, when news of the despatch of the envoys reached England, regrets had been expressed in some of the public prints that no professional naturalist had been attached to the Mission, and that the Society's Secretary had then pointed out, in a letter to *The Times*, that the fears so manifested were groundless. The Secretary's opinion had been fully verified, as regarded Ornithology, by the collections transmitted home by those gentlemen. Though small, they consisted chiefly of specimens of great interest and rarity, few of the species being contained in any museum in this country. Dr. Hartlaub's description of one bird, entirely new to science, the Society would shortly hear read; and there could be little doubt that the notes and observations which Dr. Roch and Mr. Edward Newton were about to publish in 'The Ibis' would well deserve the notice of naturalists interested in the Fauna of Madagascar. Mr. Newton added that he understood that a collection of Reptiles

and Fishes had also been made by those gentlemen, but that it was unfortunately spoiled, after its arrival at Mauritius, by the dishonesty of a native servant, who had abstracted the spirit in which the specimens had been preserved.

The following papers were read :—

1. NOTICE OF A SPECIES OF *LASIURUS* SENT FROM THE SANDWICH ISLANDS BY MR. W. H. PEASE. BY DR. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S.

I have just received from Mr. W. H. Pease a specimen of *Lasiurus* or Hairy-tailed Bat, with the following observation, dated Honolulu, Nov. 20, 1861 :—“I have the pleasure of sending you a specimen of the Bat found on our islands, also a skull separate. It is the only mammal indigenous to our group (of islands). It is quite a curiosity to our natives, very few of them having ever seen one.”

I have carefully compared the specimen sent by Mr. Pease with the *Lasiuri* in the British Museum, which have been named by Mr. Robert Tomes in conformity with his paper on the species of the genus, printed in the ‘Proceedings of the Zoological Society’ for 1857.

I cannot find any distinction between it and the specimen named *Lasiurus grayii*, described in his paper. (See P. Z. S. 1857, p. 40.)

The Museum specimen was received from Mr. Bridges, who obtained it in Chili.

There is a second specimen in the Museum Collection named by Mr. R. Tomes *L. grayi*, which was collected by Mr. John E. Goodsir at Nasqually, Juan de Fuca. I may observe that the Sandwich Islands specimen is of the same size as the specimen from Chili, and considerably smaller than the one from Juan de Fuca, which has the arm-bone nearly a line and a half longer than the Chilian and Sandwich Islands specimens.

This Bat being found in the Sandwich Islands is curious, as showing the similarity of the fauna in some particulars with that of the Western Coast of America.

2. NOTICE OF A NEW SPECIES OF DOLPHIN (*DELPHINUS CATALANIA*), DISCOVERED IN NORTH AUSTRALIA BY MR. JOHN MACGILLIVRAY. BY DR. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S., ETC.

Mr. John Macgillivray has sent to Mr. Cuming, who has transferred them to the British Museum Collection, two skulls of a species of Dolphin or Bottlenose, which he regards as probably new.

These skulls were accompanied by the following notes :—

“*DELPHINUS*, n. s.

“*The larger of the two* skulls belonged to an individual killed off Cape Melville (within the Great Barrier Reefs), north-east coast of Australia, Sept. 5, 1860. It was a *female*, $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length; and